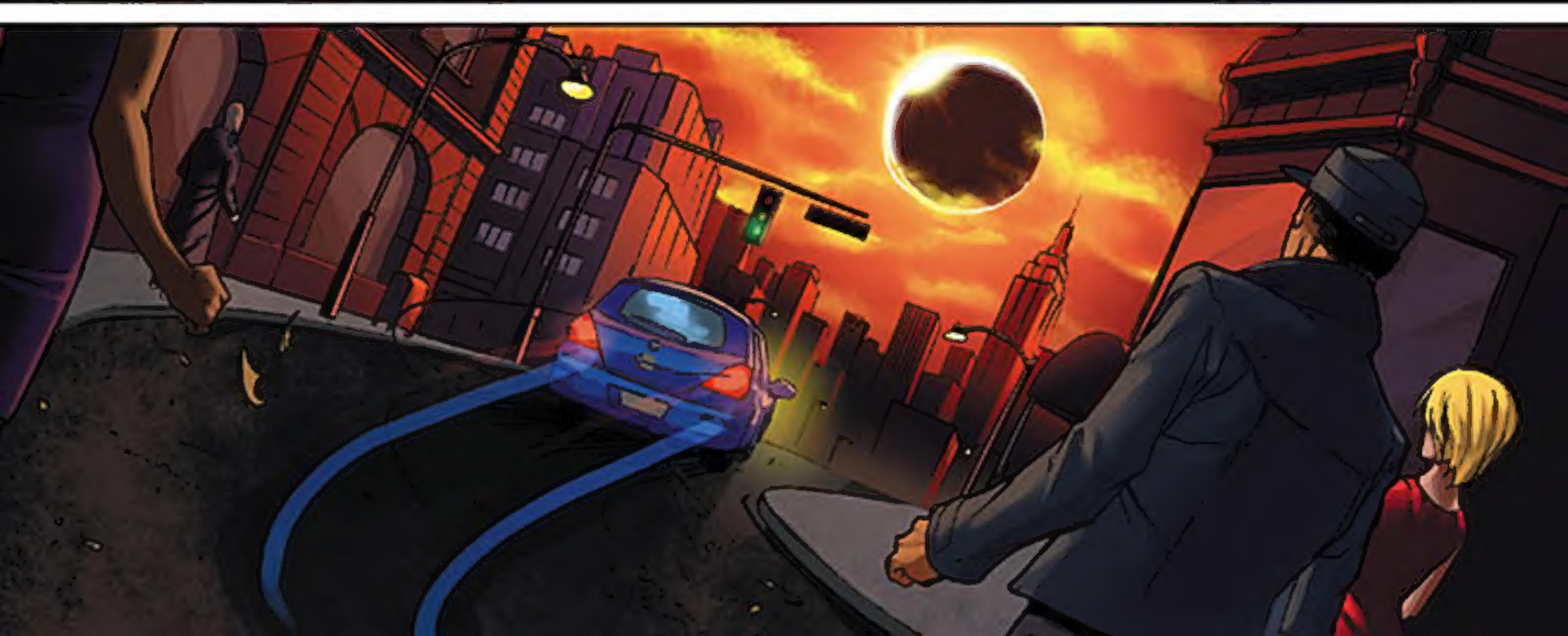




INTRODUCING THE ALL-NEW
NISSAN VERSA

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HEROES

CHAPTER 38

It Takes a Village

Part 4 of 4

As a youth, the Haitian looked up to his father, Guillame. Guillame protected their village from the corrupt government forces of the Tonton Macoute. But Guillame learned that his son might be an even greater threat. He had to make a terrible decision...



"MY FATHER HAD ALWAYS BEEN A MAN OF PASSION. IT WAS WHAT MADE HIM SUCH A POWERFUL HOULGAN.

"THAT DAY, AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD, WHERE THE REALM OF SPIRITS AND WORLD OF MAN MET IN BLOOD AND SHADOW...

"...HE WAS AS PASSIONATE ABOUT KILLING HIS ONLY SON AS I HAD EVER SEEN HIM. MORE SO.


IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Part
4 of 4

JOE KELLY OF
MAN OF ACTION STUDIOS
Story

STAZ
JOHNSON
Art

EDGAR AT STUDIO F *Colors*
COMICRAFT *Lettering*
An INVISIBLE COLLEGE *Production*




I FORGIVE YOU, BOY. KNOW THAT. I FORGIVE YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE...

...SO YOU WILL NOT SUFFER.

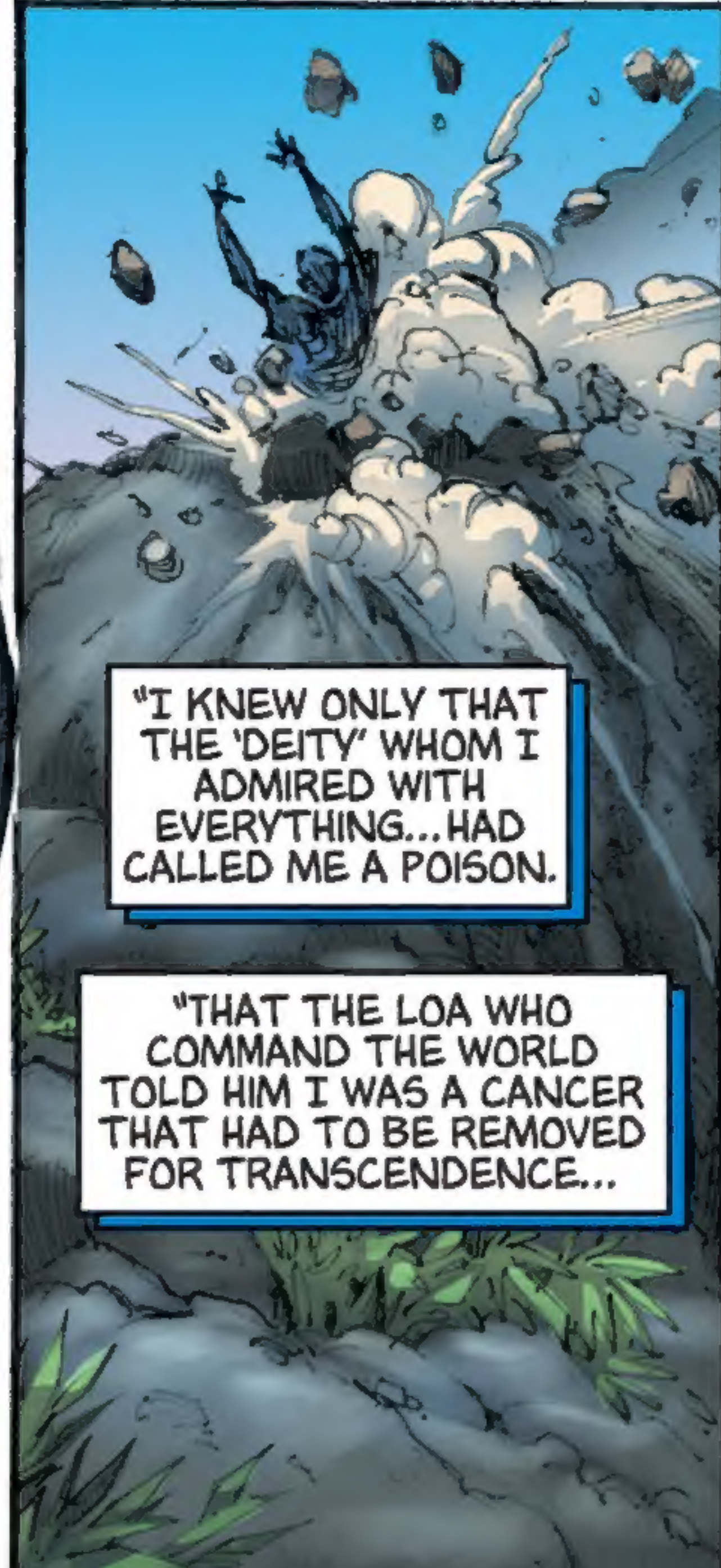


"AND THAT PASSION HAD BEEN REWARDED. MY FATHER'S POWERS HAD RETURNED."

FATHER... NO... PLEASE...




"I KNEW NOTHING
THEN OF GENETICS.
OF BIO-CHEMICAL
ABERRANCE.




"I KNEW ONLY THAT
THE 'DEITY' WHOM I
ADMIRIED WITH
EVERYTHING...HAD
CALLED ME A POISON.

"THAT THE LOA WHO
COMMAND THE WORLD
TOLD HIM I WAS A CANCER
THAT HAD TO BE REMOVED
FOR TRANSCENDENCE...


"OR HOW SHAME
COULD CRIPPLE
MY OWN
ABILITIES...



"AND IF MY DEATH
WOULD HEAL HIM...
GIVE HIM PEACE...



"...I WOULD DIE FOR
HIM. WITH PRIDE.



"BUT I WAS STILL A BOY...
AND I COULD NOT LEAVE
MY FATHER WITHOUT
ONE LAST TOUCH."



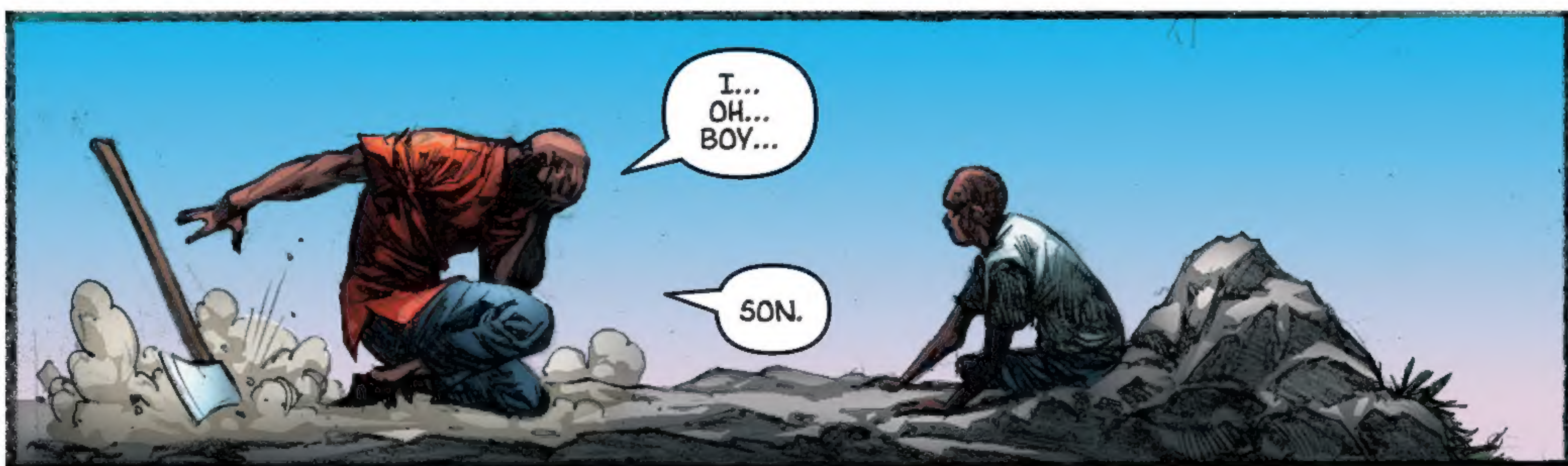
"I BECAME ONE WITH MY FATHERS' MIND, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, SAW HIM -- NOT AS A GOD, OR A PRIEST...

"...BUT AS A MAN.

"A MAN WHO LOVED HIS SON, THOUGH IT DID NOT SHOW FOR FEAR IT WOULD MAKE HIM LOOK WEAK...

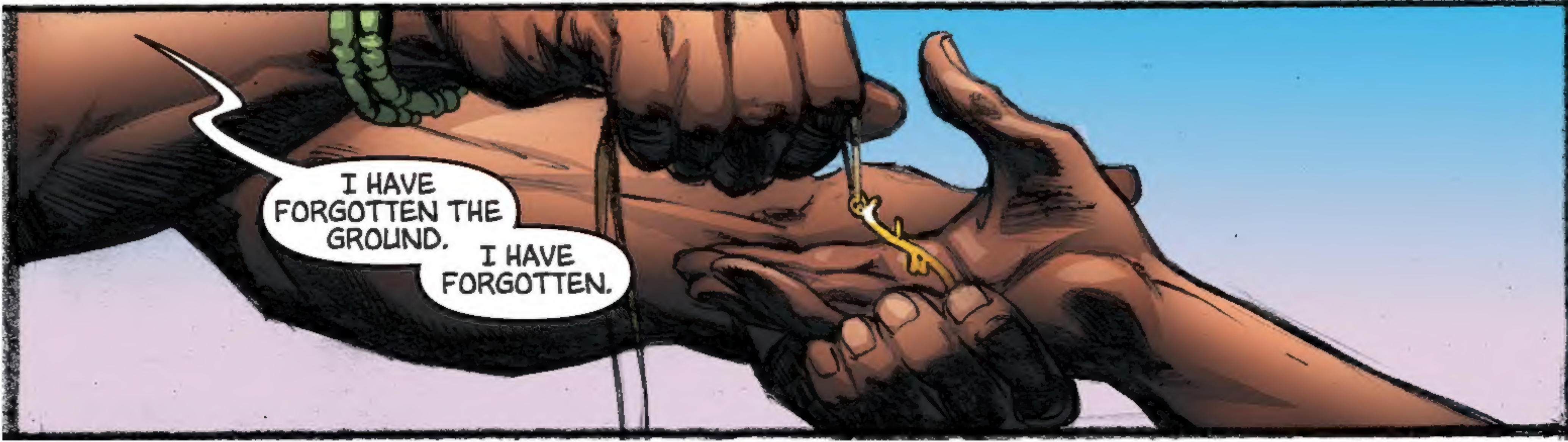
"MEMORIES, MOMENTS, HIDDEN LIKE JEWELS SCATTERED IN A MUDDY FIELD. BUT I COULD FIND THEM.

"I COULD FIND THEM AND SHOW THEM TO HIM, IN ALL OF THEIR RADIANCE."



I... OH... BOY...

SON.

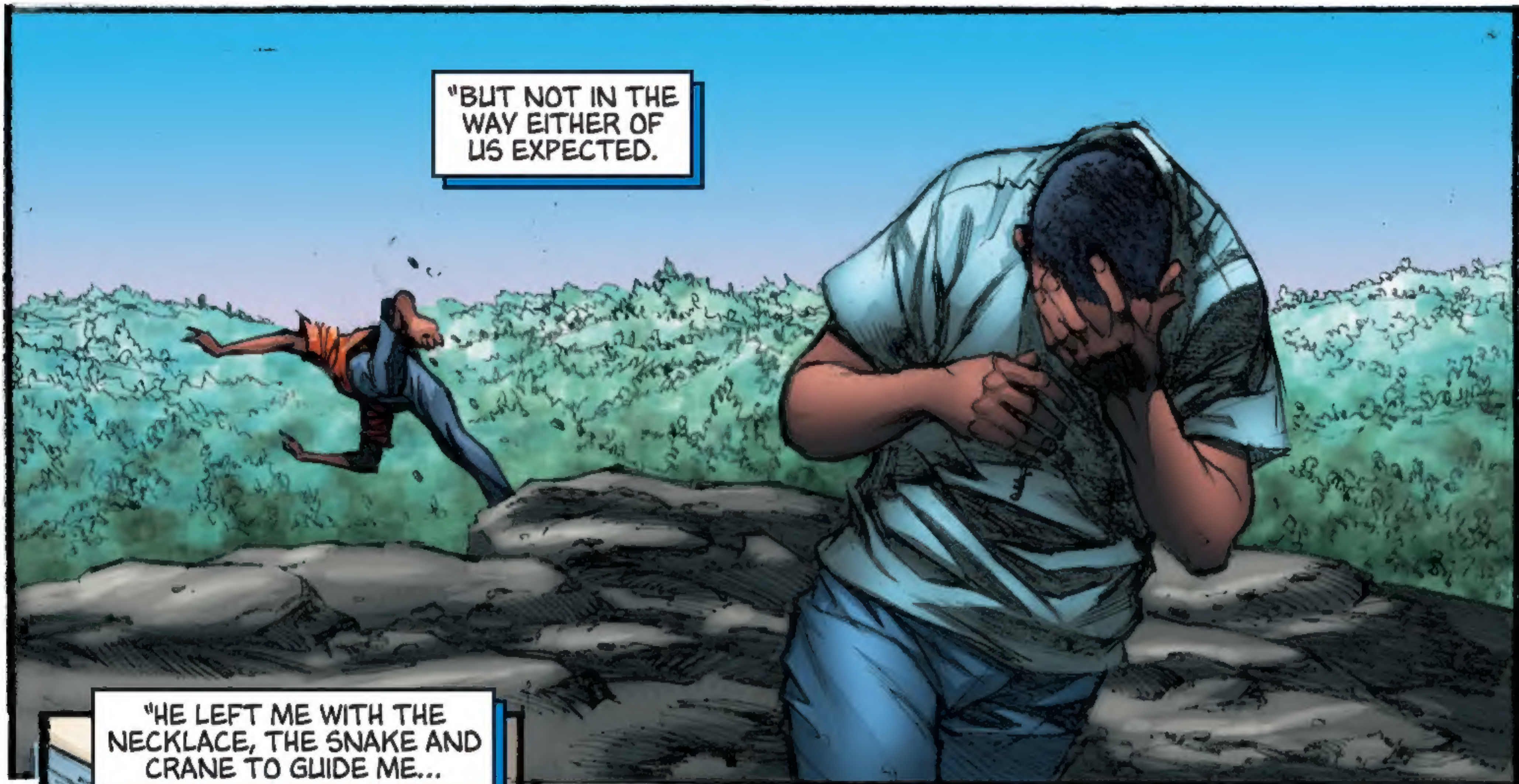


I HAVE FORGOTTEN THE GROUND. I HAVE FORGOTTEN.

"THAT DAY,
MY FATHER
'REMEMBERED
THE GROUND'...
AND HE FLEW..."



"BUT NOT IN THE
WAY EITHER OF
US EXPECTED."



"HE LEFT ME WITH THE
NECKLACE, THE SNAKE AND
CRANE TO GUIDE ME..."



"...AND A FINAL
COMMAND..."





"GIVE PEACE TO THOSE
I HAVE FORSAKEN.
BURY MY SHAME WITH
YOUR OWN HANDS..."

"...SO WHEN THE CRANE COMES
TO YOU WITH THE PROMISE OF
SUN AND CLOUDS..."



"...YOU NEVER
FORGET THE
GROUND."

"NEVER
FORGET."

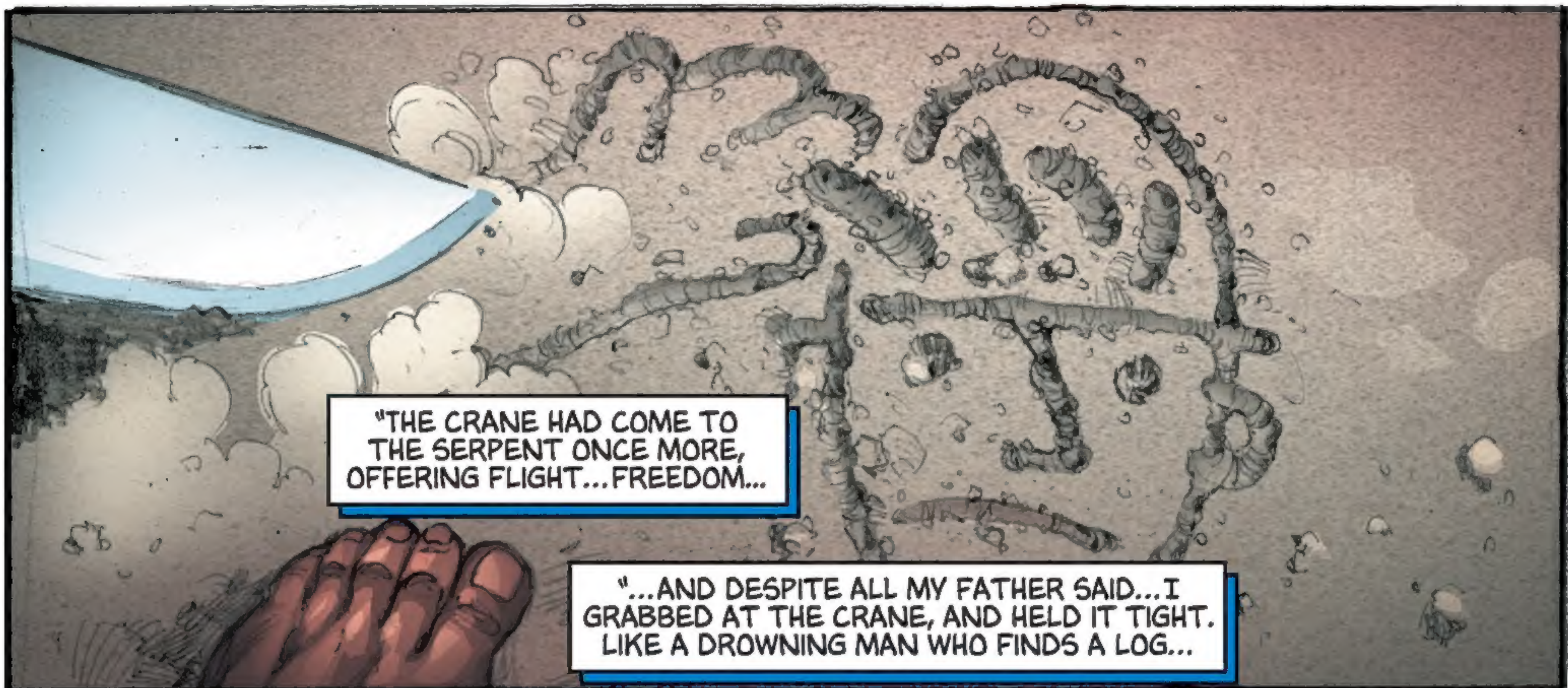


"I WANTED TO PUT BACK THAT
WHICH I HAD TAKEN...BUT IT
WASN'T POSSIBLE."

"GONE WAS
GONE. I SAW NO
ALTERNATIVE...
BUT TO
LITERALLY BURY
OUR SHAME --"

WHAT
HAPPENED
HERE..?

DID GUILLAME
DO THIS..? I'M
LOOKING FOR
GUILLAME.



"THE CRANE HAD COME TO THE SERPENT ONCE MORE, OFFERING FLIGHT... FREEDOM..."

"...AND DESPITE ALL MY FATHER SAID... I GRABBED AT THE CRANE, AND HELD IT TIGHT. LIKE A DROWNING MAN WHO FINDS A LOG..."



LIKE FATHER LIKE SON?

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP YOU. ALL OF YOU. IF YOU LET ME..?



"BUT EVEN THOUGH I FLEW THAT DAY, BEYOND THE VILLAGE, BEYOND THE WORLD..."



"...I NEVER FLEW BEYOND THE SHADOW CAST BY MY FATHER, OR THE WHISPER OF HIS LAST WISH."

MY NAME'S MISTER THOMPSON.

"NEVER FORGET. NEVER FORGET."

The End